

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1405
By Johnson R

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Don Palmer on the occasion of his retirement as Loudon County Highway Superintendent.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly have seen fit to honor those exemplary citizens who have contributed significantly to the growth and prosperity of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, no Tennessean is more deserving of this honor than Loudon County Highway Superintendent Don Palmer, who has devoted more than twenty-four years of his life to the Loudon County Highway Department; and

WHEREAS, few people have touched as many lives as Mr. Palmer, a gentleman who has attained and maintained excellence as a public servant during his illustrious 24-year tenure as Loudon County Highway Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, the son of Joe and Lois Palmer, Don Palmer was born on March 17, 1935, and was raised on the family farm, where he milked cows by hand; Mr. Palmer worked on the farm until 1960, when he went into highway construction, working on Interstates 75 and 40; and

WHEREAS, in 1968, Don Palmer purchased his own construction equipment and went into business for himself; over the next twelve years he developed subdivisions in Loudon and Roane Counties, establishing a reputation for professionalism and integrity in all of his business dealings; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, Mr. Palmer ran his first race for public office; his fellow citizens expressed their confidence in his acumen and integrity and elected him Loudon County Highway Superintendent, and he has held that office for twenty-four years; and

WHEREAS, after dedicating the past twenty-four years to building and maintaining the best roads possible for the citizens of Loudon County, Don Palmer will soon take a much-deserved retirement from this important post; and

WHEREAS, Loudon County and its citizenry have benefited greatly from Mr. Palmer's diligence on behalf of the county and his close attention to the needs of his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Don Palmer modestly attributes his success as Highway Superintendent to the hard work of his employees and the support of his constituents; and

WHEREAS, a consummate professional in his field, Mr. Palmer is a charter member of the Tennessee County Highway Officials Association, serving as its president from 1989 to 1990, and serving five years as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association; he has also been an active member of Region I Highway Association; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his meritorious service with the Loudon County Highway Department, Don Palmer is also a member of the Avery Lodge #593, a 32nd degree Mason of the Knoxville Scottish Rite, and an active Shrine member of the Cerebella Temple, Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, a devout Christian, Mr. Palmer expresses his faith through his attendance at Calvary Baptist Church, where he has been a member for many years; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Don Palmer is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Rose, and their five treasured children, ten grandchildren, and three adoring great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Palmer is a person of impeccable morals and irreproachable integrity, and he has worked assiduously in numerous capacities to establish a brighter future for the good people of Loudon County; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Don Palmer has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues, employees, and the entire citizenry of Loudon County; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Don Palmer our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors, even as we salute his exemplary 24-year career as the Loudon County Highway Superintendent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

